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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

International Application No. : PCT/EP2003/007910
Application No. : To Be Assigned
First Named Inventor : Stefan SCHWARZ
Filed : February 4, 2005
Docket No. : 095309.55873US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : METHOD OF MAKING A JOINT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The relevance of DE 196 53 509 A1 to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the specification of the present invention.

An English abstract summarizing the disclosure of each of the foreign publications is submitted herewith.

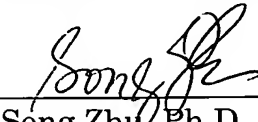
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

International Application No. PCT/EP2003/007910
Attorney Docket No.: 095309.55873US
Information Disclosure Statement Dated February 8, 2005

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

February 7, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	To Be Assigned		
		Filing Date	February 4, 2005		
		First Named Inventor	Stefan SCHWARZ		
		Art Unit			
Sheet	1	of	1	Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	095309.55873US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 6,010,155	01-04-2000	RINEHART	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		DE 101 59 154 A1	06-18-2003	GROCHE		
		DE 196 53 509 A1	06-25-1998	VOLKSWAGENWERK AG		
		DE 197 21 478 A1	11-26-1998	HAHN ORTWIN PROF DR ING		
		GB 2 330 104 A	04-14-1999	GKN SANKEY LIMITED		
		GB 330 096 A	04-14-1999	GKN SANKEY LIMITED		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		International Search Report	
		German Office Action	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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